

SECRET

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
NATIONAL FOREIGN ASSESSMENT CENTER

23 November 1979

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Soviet Forces in the Transcaucasus and Turkestan
Military Districts

1. Introduction: Relative to the forces stationed opposite NATO Europe and China, the Soviets maintain a small portion of their air and ground forces in the Transcaucasus and Turkestan Military Districts. The forces in the Transcaucasus MD are primarily intended to defend against an attack from Turkey and are only secondarily intended to counter an assault from Iran. The forces in the Turkestan MD are intended to defend the USSR from an attack from Iran or Afghanistan, but some of them probably would also be used against China. []

25X1

2. Transcaucasus Military District: Soviet Strategic Air Defense Aviation currently has some 130 modern interceptors assigned to four airfields in the Transcaucasus Military District (See Table 1). Strategic Air Defense Aviation is primarily intended to defend Soviet territory, but its forces could be used in areas immediately beyond the border. []

X1

3. Soviet Tactical Aviation has approximately 275 combat aircraft--mainly modern fighters and fighter-bombers--assigned to six airfields in the Transcaucasus Military District. The primary mission of Soviet Tactical Aviation is the support of Soviet ground forces, but these aircraft could be used to attack targets in Turkey or Iran or for air defense missions in these areas in a matter of hours. []

X1

This memorandum was prepared by the Office of Strategic Research, Regional Analysis Division, USSR/EE Branch.

[]

25X1

Copy 1

25X1

WARNING NOTICE
INTELLIGENCE SOURCES
AND METHODS INVOLVED

SECRET

25X1

Approved For Release 2005/11/23 : CIA-RDP81B00401R000600010006-2

Approved For Release 2005/11/23 : CIA-RDP81B00401R000600010006-2

5. The Soviets have 11 divisions--all motorized rifle--in the Transcaucasus Military District. The units at Yerevan and Leninakan, which have a full complement of combat equipment and are manned at about half their wartime strength of some 12,200 men, could be combat ready within 48 hours. The other nine units lack some of their combat equipment and are manned at from about 10 to 30 percent of their full strength; they probably would require 72 hours or more to mobilize reserve personnel and equipment. Six of these divisions are along the Soviet border, and they each have a motorized rifle regiment that is manned at about 50 percent of their wartime strength of some 2,300 men as a peacetime reaction force. In addition, most of the higher echelon combat and logistics support units in the district are manned well below their wartime strengths and would also require substantial mobilization before they were combat ready. []

25X1

6. The motorized rifle divisions in the Transcaucasus Military District generally do not have the latest Soviet equipment. For example, the divisions are equipped with trucks and large numbers of BTR-152 armored personnel carriers instead of BTR-60PB and BMP infantry combat vehicles found in divisions opposite NATO Europe and China. The tank regiments that are part of these divisions almost totally are comprised of T-54/55 tanks; limited numbers of T-62 tanks are assigned to the units at Yerevan, Kirovakan, and Tbilisi. With the possible exception of the divisions at Leninakan which may be equipped with 122-mm self-propelled howitzers, the units are equipped exclusively with towed artillery. []

25X1

7. Turkestan Military District: Soviet Strategic Air Defense and Tactical Aviation have some 295 combat aircraft in the Turkestan Military District (See Table II). Of these, about 175 are assigned to Strategic Air Defense Aviation at five airfields; the other 120 are assigned to Tactical Aviation and are stationed at three airfields. []

K1

8. The Soviets have five divisions--one airborne and four motorized rifle units--in the Turkestan Military District. The airborne division at Fergana is supported by an AN-12 Cub regiment of some 35 aircraft and, like the

25X1

Approved For Release 2005/11/23 : CIA-RDP81B00401R000600010006-2

Approved For Release 2005/11/23 : CIA-RDP81B00401R000600010006-2

SECRET

Approved For Release 2005/11/23 : CIA-RDP81B00401R000600010006-2

K1



25X1

Approved For Release 2005/11/23 : CIA-RDP81B00401R000600010006-2

Approved For Release 2005/11/23 : CIA-RDP81B00401R000600010006-2

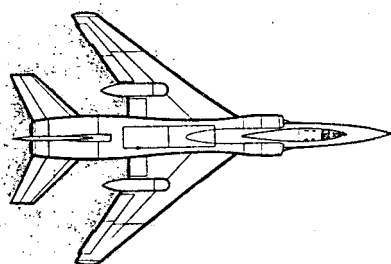
SECRET

Approved For Release 2005/11/23 : CIA-RDP81B00401R000600010006-2
ATTACHMENT A

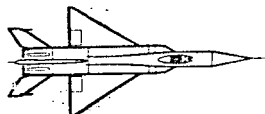
Soviet Interceptors

Newer Models

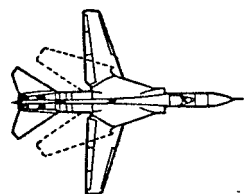
TU-128 Fiddler
Medium-to-high altitude



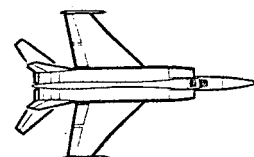
SU-15 Flagon
Medium-to-high altitude



MIG-23 Flogger
Low-to-medium altitude



MIG-25 Foxbat
High altitude



Maximum combat radius*

810 nm with 4 AAMs

420 nm with 2 or 4 AAMs
plus cannon

1,050 kn

515 nm with 4 AAMs
plus cannon

1,300 kn

450 nm with 4 AAMs

1,625 kn

Maximum speed

950 kn

Overall length

28 m

Year operational

1966

18 m

1967

16 m

1970

20 m

1970

*The combat radius given is for a mission flown entirely at medium-to-high altitudes.
Other flight profiles would reduce the radius considerably.

SECRET

Approved For Release 2005/11/23 : CIA-RDP81B00401R000600010006-2

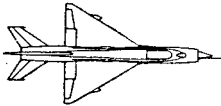
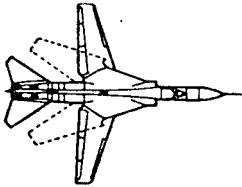
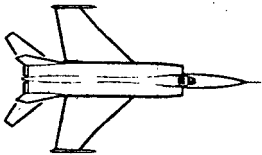
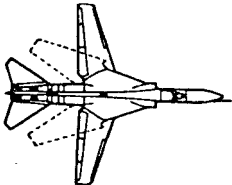
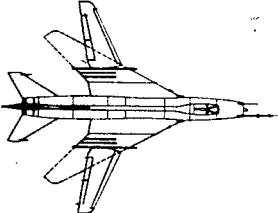
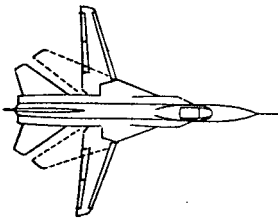
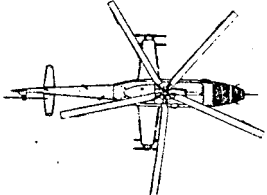
SECRET

SECRET

ATTACHMENT A

Approved For Release 2005/11/23 : CIA-RDP81B00401R000600010006-2

Newer Soviet Tactical Aviation Aircraft

		Maximum Combat Radius *	Maximum Speed	Missile Armament	Overall Length	Year Operation
MIG-21 Fishbed L		250 nm with 1,500 kg of bombs	1,225 kn	AA-2/8; AS-7	16 m	1973
MIG-23 Flogger B		500 nm with 2,000 kg of bombs	1,350 kn	AA-2/7/8; AS-7	18 m	1972
MIG-25 Foxbat B/D		325 nm with 2,700 kg of bombs	1,625 kn	—	20 m	1970
MIG-27 Flogger D		500 nm with 2,000 kg of bombs	975 kn	AS-7/10; AA-2/8	18 m	1975
SU-17 Fitter C/D		325 nm with 2,000 kg of bombs	1,200 kn	AS-7/9/10; AA-2/8	19 m	1973/76
SU-24 Fencer A		525 nm with 5,000 kg of bombs	1,425 kn	AS-7/9/10; AA-2/8	21 m	1974
(Although currently not stationed in Eastern Europe, Fencer A would be available for use by tactical aviation opposite NATO's Central Region.)						
MI-24 Hind A/D		175 nm with 2,000 kg of bombs	185 kn	AT-2/6	17 m	1972/76

*The combat radius given is for a mission flown at low altitudes over the combat area but at high altitudes elsewhere. Other, more realistic, flight profiles would reduce the radius considerably.



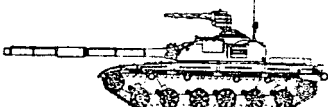
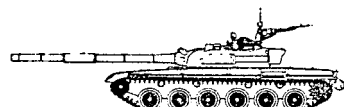
Secret

580838 11-79 CIA

Approved For Release 2005/11/23 : CIA-RDP81B00401R000600010006-2

SECRET

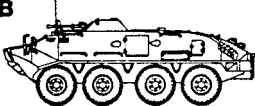


Soviet Medium Tanks

	Main Armament	Armor	Weight	Overall Length	Year Operational
T-54/55 	100 mm	Steel	36 tons	6.2 m	1949/58
T-62 	115 mm smoothbore gun	Steel	37 tons	6.6 m	1961
T-64 	125 mm smoothbore gun	Laminate	38 tons	6.3 m	1970
T-72 	125 mm smoothbore gun	Laminate	41 tons	6.9 m	1974

Secret

580834 11-79 CIA

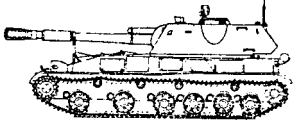
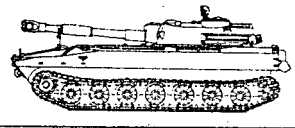
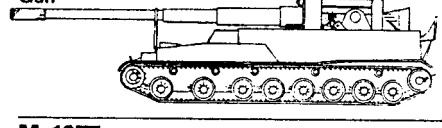
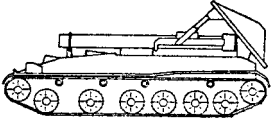
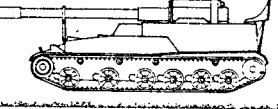
Soviet Combat Infantry Vehicles

	Main Armament	Speed		Capacity	Overall Length	Year Operational
		Land	Water			
BTR-60PB 	14.5-mm and 7.62-mm machine guns	80 km/hr	10 km/hr	3 crewmen, 8 troops	7.2 m	1961
BMP 	73-mm gun, 7.62-mm machine gun, Sagger or upgraded antitank missile	65 km/hr	6 km/hr	3 crewmen, 8 troops	6.7 m	1967
BMD with airborne units 	73-mm gun, three 7.62-mm machine guns, Sagger or upgraded antitank missile	80 km/hr	10 km/hr	3 crewmen, 6 troops	5.4 m	1970

Secret

580833 11-79 CIA

Soviet Self-Propelled Artillery

	Main Armament	Maximum Range	Overall Length	Year Operational
M-1973 Howitzer 	152 mm	17,300 m	7.3 m	1973
M-1974 Howitzer 	122 mm	15,300 m	7.4 m	1974
M-1975 Gun 	203 mm (probable)	28,000-30,000 m	9.2 m	1977
M-1977 Mortar 	240 mm	12,000 m	7.4 m	1977
M-1977 Gun-howitzer 	203 mm (probable)	22,000-24,000 m	7.2	1979

Secret

580835 11-79 CIA

